GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2813
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2003
PEST ATTACK ON SUGARCANE CROP
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;BHASKAR RAO PATIL;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugarcane crop in some parts of the country particularly in Maharashtra have been affected by white woolly aphid pest attack;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have sent a Central team to Maharashtra to assess the damage;

(d) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Central team; and

(e) the further assistance the Union Government propose to provide to the State Government to face the challenge?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Sugarcane crop in Sangli, Satara, Kolhapur, Ahmadnagar andSohlapur districts of Maharashtra and Belgam, Bidar, Bijapur, Bellary and Bagalkot districts ofKarnataka has been reported to be affected by white woolly aphid pest in varying intensity.

(c) & (d): The Union Government has already deputed a Central Team to the pest affected areas to assess the situation. The team has already toured the area from 3-6th March, 2003. The report of the team is awaited.

(e): Further action on this issue, including decision regarding assistance to the State Government to face this challenge will be taken on basis of the report of the Central Team.